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In the *Abhandlungen der Senckenbergischen Naturforschenden Gesellschaft* of Frankfurt (Vol. XXV, No. 2), Dr. Steindachner gives an account of the fishes collected by Dr. Kükenthal in Molucca and Borneo. Two hundred and eight species are enumerated, six of them new, most of these being well figured.

In the *Records of Australian Museum* (Vol. IV, No. 1), Mr. E. R. Waite discovers that the sharks of the genera *Hemiscyllium* and *Chiloscyllium* bring forth their young alive. He therefore very properly separates these genera from the *Scylliorhinidae* as a distinct family, *Hemiscylliidae*. The genus *Orectolobus* (*Crossorhinus*) is also viviparous, and is recognized as a distinct family, *Orectolobidae*. A figure is given of *Hemiscyllium modestum*, and also of the Australian dogfish, *Squalus megalops*, a species which has a very close relative in Japan.

As fishes of Lord Howe's Island, Mr. Waite figures *Upeneus pleurostigma*, *Apogon norfolcensis*, *Iniistius cacatua*, *Chaetodon tricinctus*, and *Monacanthus homensis*. We may note that the deep green color of the teeth of *Pseudoscarus guacamaia* and related species is not the result of staining through the food. It is inborn, unvarying, and a result of distinct specialization.

D. S. J.

An Elementary Book on Lepidoptera.¹ — This is really an excellent book, both in conception and in execution. Reversing the order of her title, Miss Dickerson deals in Part I with the butterflies. The monarch *Danais archippus* holds the place of honor, and its life history and structural characters are given accurately and with sufficient detail; the other species, twelve in number, with the exception of two swallowtails, *Papilio*s, a white, *Pieris*, and a sulphur, *Colias*, are all closely allied nymphalids.

In Part II *Callosamia promethea* is made the starting point, and the twenty and more species that follow are *Bombyces*, *sensu lat.*, and *Sphinges*.

The treatment in both these parts is so happy that the omission of an adequate account of the life history of a blue, *Lycæna*, and of a skipper, hesperid, among the butterflies, and of two or more of the lower moths, is especially regrettable.

Part III is divided between a chapter on relationship, showing classification and ancestry of moths and butterflies, and practical suggestions how to collect, keep, and study butterflies and moths.

¹ Dickerson, Mary C. *Moths and Butterflies*. Boston, Ginn & Company, 1901. xviii + 344 pp., 244 illustrations.

The chapter on relationship is from its nature more open to criticism ; it is, however, clear in statement and well balanced in proportion. The practical directions are adequate, though exception must be taken to the recommendation for mounting moths and butterflies in glass-covered tablets ; a sealed mount for any object preserved for study — and specimens not for study should not be collected — is undesirable.

A short list of books for reference, a glossary, and an index are also given.

Throughout the book errors of statement — such as, ‘the tussocks are very often included, by competent authorities it is to be presumed, in the Noctuidæ,’ and that there is but one brood of the white-marked tussock each year — are infrequent.

The illustrations are more numerous than either the title or the list indicates, and they show to what good advantage the camera may be applied in nature study.

S. H.

Sesiidæ. — Mr. William Beutenmüller’s long-expected monograph of the Sesiidæ of America north of Mexico appears in sumptuous form as Part VI of Vol. I of the *Memoirs of the American Museum of Natural History*. After a brief introduction there are sections on the position of the family, its characters, characters of the genera, synopsis of genera, historic review of generic names, habits of imago, mimicry of imago, characters of the larvæ, synopsis of larvæ, habits of larvæ, synopsis of food habits of larvæ, characters of pupæ, descriptions of genera and species with synopses of the species, and a bibliography.

Mr. Beutenmüller recognizes seventeen genera, 100 species, and ten varieties ; one new species and one new variety are described. Of the eight plates, five are devoted to the imagoes and three to larval borings. The figures of the imagoes, though inconveniently arranged on the plates, are admirable ; only five species and three varieties are unfigured. Text-figures showing structural details are also given.

A bibliography of more than thirty-five pages and with 542 titles would seem adequate, but is not sufficient to include all the works quoted in the body of the paper.

The date, March, 1901, on the cover is entirely unjustifiable ; copies were not received until June, and were certainly not issued earlier than the end of May.

S. H.